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10/724,153

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KHAI MINH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2687

DATE MAILED: 11/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/724,153

Applicant(s)

TSUNOMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Khai M. Nguyen

Art Unit

2687

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 9-19, 21, 25-33, 35, 39-41, and 43 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 6-8, 20, 22-24, 34, 36-38, 42 and 44-46 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/1/2003
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 1, 2003 have been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449 form or PTO/SB/08A and 08B forms)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2, 11-18, 27-32, and 39-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Knutsson et al. (U.S.Pub-20020006788).

Regarding claim 1, Knutsson teaches a information terminal device comprising:

a wireless local area network (LAN) accesses section which access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, 7, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041);

a search section which searches a hot spot in or near a desire place based on a desire place data indicating said desire place (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015), wherein said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034), said desire place is a place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034); and

a display section which displays a hot spot data indicating a place of said hot spot searched by said search section (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 2, Knutsson teaches a information terminal device comprising:

a wireless local area network (LAN) accesses section which access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, 7, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041);

a sending section which sends a desire place data to a server (paragraph 0029), wherein said desire place data indicates a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015);

a receiving section which receives a hot spot data from said server (fig.6-7, paragraph 0040-0041), wherein said hot spot data indicates a place of a hot spot in or near said desired place searched by said server based on said desire place data (fig.1-

3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041), said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, 6-7, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041); and

a display section which displays said hot spot data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 11, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, wherein said hot spot data includes a first map data indicating a first area containing said place of said hot spot (fig.1-6, abstract),

said display section displays one of said first map data and a second map data indicating a second area containing said first area (fig.1-6, paragraph 0031), and

said display section displays places of hot spots which are in said second area except for said first area (fig.1-6, abstract, paragraph 0031, 0034-0035).

Regarding claim 12, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, wherein said search section updates said hot spot data without any operation by said user (paragraph 0036-0039).

Regarding claim 13, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, wherein said display section displays a first hot spot and a second hot spot

distinguishably (fig.1-3, abstract, paragraph 0029), said first hot spot can be used for said user, and said second hot spot can not be used for said user (paragraph 0043).

Regarding claim 14, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a memory which stores a setting data that is used for accessing said wireless LAN in said hot spot and was stored when accessing said wireless LAN last time in said hot spot (fig.3, paragraph 0034-0035).

Regarding claim 15, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, wherein said desire place data is inputted by said user (paragraph 0032-0033).

Regarding claim 16, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, wherein said desire place data is the place which the information terminal device detects (paragraph 0032-0033).

Regarding claim 17, Knutsson teaches a PC card which is connected with an information terminal device with a display section and used for accessing a wireless

local area network (LAN) (fig.1-3, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041, *terminal device always has memory or PC card, or SIM*) comprising:

a search section which searches a hot spot in or near a desire place based on a desire place data indicating said desire place (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015), wherein said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph –12-0015, 0034), said desire place is a place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph –12-0015, 0034);

wherein said search section outputs said searched hot spot data to said display section (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 18, Knutsson teaches a PC card which is connected with an information terminal device with a display section and used for accessing a wireless local area network (LAN) (fig.1-3, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041, *terminal device always has memory or PC card, or SIM*) comprising:

a sending request outputting section which outputs a sending request that indicates sending a desire place data to a server (paragraph 0029), wherein said desire place data indicates a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015); and

an output request outputting section which outputs an output request that indicates outputting a hot spot data received from said server to said display section (fig.6-7, paragraph 0040-0041),

wherein said hot spot data indicates a place of a hot spot in or near said desired place searched by said server based on said desire place data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041), said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 27, Knutsson the PC card according to claim 17, wherein said hot spot data includes a first map data indicating a first area containing said place of said hot spot (fig.1-6, abstract),

said search section outputs a signal for displaying one of said first map data and a second map data indicating a second area containing said first area (fig.1-6, paragraph 0031), and

said search section outputs a signal for displaying places of hot spots which are in said second area except for said first area (fig.1-6, paragraph 0031, 0034-0035).

Regarding claim 28, Knutsson teaches the PC card according to claim 17, wherein said search section updates said hot spot data without any operation by said user (paragraph 0036-0039).

Regarding claim 29, Knutsson teaches the PC card according to claim 17, wherein said search section outputs a signal for displaying a first hot spot and a second hot spot distinguishably, said first hot spot can be used for said user (fig.1-3, paragraph 0029), and said second hot spot can not be used for said user (paragraph 0043).

Regarding claim 30, Knutsson teaches the PC card according to claim 17, further comprising:

a memory which stores a setting data that is used for accessing said wireless LAN in said hot spot and was stored when accessing said wireless LAN last time in said hot spot (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034-0035).

Regarding claim 31, Knutsson teaches a method of finding a hot spot in a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, 7, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041), comprising:

searching a hot spot in or near a desire place in response to a desire place data indicating said desire place (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015), wherein said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034), said desire place is a place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034); and

displaying a hot spot data indicating a place of said hot spot based on a searching result (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 32, Knutsson teaches a method of finding a hot spot in a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, 7, abstract, paragraph 0034, 0041), comprising:

sending a desire place data to a server, wherein said desire place data indicates a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034);

receiving a hot spot data from said server (fig.6-7, paragraph 0040-0041), wherein said hot spot data indicates a place of a hot spot in or near said desired place searched by said server based on said desire place data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041), said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041); and

displaying said hot spot data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 39, Knutsson teaches a computer program product embodied on a computer-readable medium and comprising code that, when executed for a method of finding a hot spot in a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN, causes a computer to perform the following:

searching a hot spot in or near a desire place in response to a desire place data indicating said desire place (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015), wherein said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034), said desire place is a place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034); and

displaying a hot spot data indicating a place of said hot spot based on a searching result (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Regarding claim 40, Knotsson teaches a computer program product embodied on a computer-readable medium and comprising code that, when executed for a method of finding a hot spot in a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN, causes a computer to perform the following:

sending a desire place data to a server (paragraph 0029), wherein said desire place data indicates a desire place where a user desires to access a wireless LAN (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015, 0034);

receiving a hot spot data from said server (fig.6-7, paragraph 0040-0041), wherein said hot spot data indicates a place of a hot spot in or near said desired place searched by said server based on said desire place data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041), said hot spot is a place where a wireless LAN connection can be established (fig.1-3, paragraph 0034, 0040-0041); and

displaying said hot spot data (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 5, 9-10, 19, 21, 25-26, 33, 35, 41, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knutsson et al. (U.S.Pub-20020006788) in view of Odakura et al. (U.S.Pat-6922634).

Regarding claims 3, 19, 33, and 41, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, the PC card according to claim 17, the method of finding a hot spot according to claim 31, and the computer program product according to claim 39

Knutsson fails to specifically disclose the desire place data includes a telephone number of said desire place. However, Odakura teaches a measuring device, with a display mode able to display map elements specified by the user selected from a list of map elements, and Odakura teaches the desire place data includes a telephone number of said desire place (fig.13, col.11, lines 29-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the desire place data includes a telephone number of said desire place as taught by

Odakura with Knutsson teaching in order to provide the user easily correct the location since the map elements existing in the specified domain.

Regarding claims 5, 21, 35, and 43 Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, the PC card according to claim 17, the method of finding a hot spot according to claim 31, and the computer program product according to claim 39

Knutsson fails to specifically disclose the desire place data includes an address of said desire place. However, Odakura teaches an measuring device, with a display mode able to display map elements specified by the user selected from a list of map elements, and Odakura teaches the desire place data includes an address of said desire place (fig.13, col.11, lines 29-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the desire place data includes an address of said desire place as taught by Odakura with Knutsson teaching in order to provide the user easily correct the location since the map elements existing in the specified domain.

Regarding claims 9-10, 25-26, Knutsson teaches the information terminal device according to claim 1, the PC card according to claim 17

said search section searches an area map data indicating a map of an area which corresponds to said area code and zipcode (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015),

said display section displays said area map data searched by said search section (fig.1-3, paragraph 0030, 0034), and

said search section searches said hot spot data of said hot spot in or near a specific area which is a part of said area and selected by said user (fig.1-3, paragraph 0012-0015).

Knutsson fails to specifically disclose the desire place data includes an area code for a telephone number, and zip code of said desire place. However, Odakura teaches an measuring device, with a display mode able to display map elements specified by the user selected from a list of map elements, and Odakura teaches the desire place data includes an area code for a telephone number, and zip code of said desire place (fig.13, col.11, lines 29-45). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the desire place data includes an area code for a telephone number, and zip code of said desire place as taught by Odakura with Knutsson teaching in order to provide the user easily correct the location since the map elements existing in the specified domain.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4, 6-8, 20, 22-24, 34, 36-38, 42, and 44-46 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ono et al. (U.S.Pub-20040152472) discloses Apparatus and method for mapping a location of wireless base station in a mobile communication system.

Stewart et al. (U.S.Pat-6259405) discloses Geographic based communications service.

McCann et al. (U.S.Pub-20020022491) discloses LAN services delivery system.

Takaki (U.S.Pat-6029069) discloses Navigation system using portable phone and navigation method using the same.

Richton (U.S.Pat-6650902) discloses Method and apparatus for wireless telecommunications system that provides location-based information delivery to a wireless mobile unit.

Jin et al. (U.S.Pat-6654683) discloses Method and system for real-time navigation using mobile telephones.

Rangarajan et al. (U.S.Pat-6757544) discloses System and method for determining a location relevant to a communication device and/or its associated user.

Yoshida et al. (U.S.Pub-20020075853) discloses communication system.


Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khai M. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571.272.7923. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lester Kincaid can be reached on 571.272.7922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Khai Nguyen
Au: 2687


ELISEO RAMOS-FELICIANO
PATENT EXAMINER

11/16/2005